

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR IMPROVING HARD HANDOFFS IN CDMA SYSTEMS

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of improving hard handoffs in a communication system comprising a source base station (BS) 114, a target BS 106 and a mobile switching center (MSC) 104. In particular, when a handoff is needed, a requested service option and a list of service options supported by a mobile station (MS) 202 are communicated from the source BS to the target BS. Upon receiving a handoff request message, the target base station selects either the requested service option or an alternate service option. The alternate service option is chosen based on one or more of the MS's service option capabilities, service option priorities, and resources available in the target BS. The selected service option is communicated to the source BS and the MS.